



## Dictyosphaeria cavernosa

### Green algae

#### Threat Scores

##### 1. Ecological Impact

- In nutrient enriched and overfished areas, this algae displays invasive qualities; it easily absorbs nutrients, grows quickly, and smothers coral

##### 2. Invasive Potential

- The alga uses coral and limestone outcrops as an anchorage and proceeds to overgrow them, killing the corals by smothering

##### 3. Geographic Extent

- Locally patchy

##### 4. Management Difficulty

- Sewage diversion has decreased biomass of *D. cavernosa* in Hawaii



#### Geography and Habitat

##### 1. Native: Hawai'i

##### 2. Introduced: Hawai'i (native transplant)

##### 3. Habitats

- Marine, intertidal zones, coral reefs, benthic
- Tide pools, submerged substrates

#### Invasion Pathways

##### 1. Hull/Surface fouling

#### Non-Native Locations

##### 1. 152- Hawaiian Islands

#### Sources

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3. [http://species-identification.org/species.php?species\\_group=caribbean\\_diving\\_guide&id=492](http://species-identification.org/species.php?species_group=caribbean_diving_guide&id=492)
4. <http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/reefalgae/What%2oplants%2olook%2olike/Plants%20Dictyosphaeria%2ocavernosa.htm>
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